

USSR LEADERS' MESSAGE TO CUBAN LEADERS

Moscow PRAVDA 26 July 1962--A

(Text) To Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, premier of the Republic of Cuba; Comrade Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado, president of the Republic of Cuba; Havana:

On the day of Cuba's revolutionary holiday--the anniversary of the national uprising, we ask you, dear comrades, and through you all the heroic people of Cuba to accept the sincere congratulations of the Soviet people, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the USSR Council of Ministers, and us personally.

Nine years ago, on 26 July 1953, the brave sons of Cuba, with Comrade Fidel Castro at their head, came out boldly against the cruel Batista dictatorship and thus laid the basis for the glorious liberation struggle of the entire Cuban people for their freedom and national independence. The working people of Cuba, having thrown off the hated yoke of the foreign monopolies and taken the power into their own hands, thus raised high the brilliant torch of freedom which is illuminating the road to national liberation for all peoples of the Latin American countries.

At present the Cuban people, who have set themselves the noble task of building the first worker-peasant state in the Western hemisphere, are successfully overcoming the difficulties obstructing the road to the economic development of their motherland. Undoubtedly the just cause of the Cuban revolution, which meets with the understanding and support of all progressive people of the globe and the peoples of the mighty camp of peace and socialism, will be victorious. They will win despite all the machinations of the imperialist circles, who are trying by means of an economic blockade and continuous hostile provocations to return Cuba to the dark times of the dominance of the foreign monopolies, of lawlessness and poverty.

The Soviet people and the Soviet Government have rendered, are rendering, and will continue to render comprehensive fraternal aid to their Cuban brothers. We note with profound satisfaction and pleasure that the relations of close friendship and cooperation which exist between our countries are strengthening every day. Accept, dear friends, on this important day for the Republic of Cuba our best wishes for the prosperity and happiness of the fraternal Cuban people.

N. Khrushchev, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; L. Brezhnev, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Moscow, Kremlin, 25 July 1962.